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REMARKS

This case has been granted special status and Applicant fully appreciates the diligence of the office in further examination and consideration of the application accordingly. To further that process, Applicant has amended the claims to place the case into condition for allowability.

Claim Objections

Claim 14 stands objected to as allegedly calling for alternatively different embodiments. This rejection is respectfully traversed. Claim 14 has been cancelled herein so the objection is hereby moot.

Corrected Formal Drawings

Corrected formal drawings are attached hereto as Exhibit A. The Applicant has amended Fig. 2 to more clearly indicate that reference numeral 220 points to the "solid black circles 220" as described in the specification. It is believed that the Examiner's objection to the drawings has been overcome and that the objection should be withdrawn.

Rejoinder and Restriction Comments

The Examiner has indicated that she maintains her restriction and objection to rejoinder positions made in the instant Office Action. Applicant maintains his traversal of these positions but has decided to assert the non-elected claims and embodiments in a continuation application so further prosecution and remarks are not necessary here.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant acknowledges with thanks the Examiner's determination that claims 1-4, 10, 12, 15-19 and 25-27 are allowable without prosecution, amendment or comment by the Applicant. Since only allowable claims remain in this application, it is believed that the application is in condition for a Notice of Allowance.

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Expedited Processing Requested

Applicant reminds the Examiner that this case has been afforded Special Status as a result of a granted Petition to Make Special and that any efforts to expedite issuance of a Notice of Allowance and further expedited post-allowance processing would be greatly appreciated.

Conclusion

Should a Notice of Allowance not be immediately forthcoming, Applicant respectfully requests telephonic notice of such and the courtesy of an immediate second Office Action.

Any questions concerning the foregoing or any arrangements for an interview (in accord with special examination practice under MPEP §708.02) may be directed to the undersigned at 616-742-3514 (gtw@mcgarrybair.com) or to Joel E. Bair of McGarry Bair PC at 616-742-3513 (jeb@mcgarrybair.com).

Respectfully submitted,

OLIVIER BOIREAU

Dated: June 3, 2003

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